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Food & Nutrition

Information
Center

U.S.D.A., NAL

Cataloguing Prep

United States
Department of
Agriculture

National
Agricultural
Library



What is the Food and Nutrition Information Center?

The Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC) serves persons seeking information or educational materials in the area of food and human nutrition. The Center is part of the National Agricultural Library (NAL), which is located in Beltsville, MD.

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The FNIC Collection

FNIC serves many kinds of users. For example, it can help:

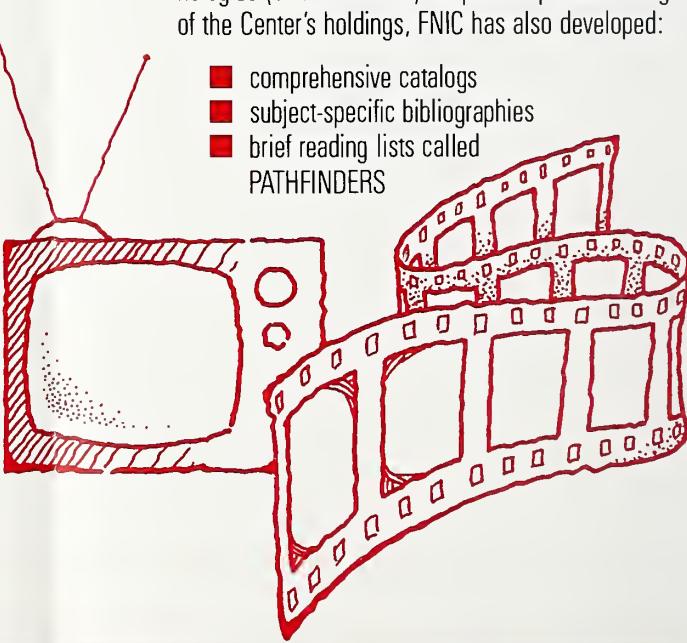
- school teachers implement effective nutrition education programs.
- food service managers identify training materials on sanitation and food safety.
- extension specialists or public health nutritionists provide information to consumers.
- scientists prepare a review of the literature on a specific aspect of nutrition.

The Center acquires books, journal articles, and audiovisual materials pertaining to human nutrition, food service management, and food science. The audiovisual collection covers a variety of media including motion pictures, film strips, slides, video-cassettes, and posters. The Center's collection ranges from children's materials to sophisticated technical information. Topics include:

- the relationship between diet and disease
- nutrient composition
- food science and technology
- food service management
- food safety and sanitation
- U.S. food and nutrition programs
- nutrition education

The items in the FNIC collection are listed in AGRICOLA, the computerized bibliographic data base produced by the National Agricultural Library. Access to AGRICOLA is available through Dialog Information Retrieval (800-3-DIALOG) or BRS Information Technologies (800-345-4BRS). To provide printed listings of the Center's holdings, FNIC has also developed:

- comprehensive catalogs
- subject-specific bibliographies
- brief reading lists called PATHFINDERS



Services

FNIC provides the following services:

- It lends books and audiovisual materials. An unlimited number of books may be borrowed for a period of 1 month. Users may borrow a total of three audiovisuals at a time and keep them for 4 weeks. Users are responsible for the cost of return postage for books and audiovisuals.
- It provides photocopies of journal articles (as permitted by the copyright law, title 17, U.S. code). Photocopies of up to six journal articles will be provided at a time.
- It provides comprehensive reference services, including computer searches of major databases, "factfinding," and referrals.

While FNIC assists all interested persons, *direct free* borrowing privileges and/or *unlimited free* reference service is available only for the staff of the following organizations:

1. Federal and state Government agencies
2. School districts and elementary and secondary school personnel (including teachers, food service staff and school nurses)
3. Nutrition Education and Training Program (NET), Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and Commodity Supplemental Foods Program (CSF)
4. Food distribution program for Indian reservations
5. Child care food program providers
6. U.S. libraries
7. Other organizations receiving USDA funds or commodities



For those persons who do NOT fall into the above categories, you may obtain FNIC materials through interlibrary loan. Check with your local libraries for this service. FNIC may perform brief complimentary searches of the AGRICOLA database on a topic of your choice. More extensive searches are available on a cost recovery basis.

Software Demonstration Center

FNIC also has a demonstration center for food and nutrition microcomputer software. The extensive collection of dietary analysis, nutrition education, and food service programs is available for onsite review by appointment only. (Software is not loaned.)

Your help could enhance the Food and Nutrition Information Center services. The FNIC staff concentrates its efforts on acquiring audiovisuals, books, periodicals, reports, computer software and other material related to food and nutrition to enrich NAL's already extensive resources. You can assist us by:

- Contributing publications and photocopies of your latest projects.
- Recommending books, journals, or audiovisuals that should be added to the collection.
- Referring us to document collections in this field that might be donated to NAL.
- Suggesting names of organizations with whom we might cooperate.
- Reporting to us when our services need improvement or when you have been especially pleased with our efforts.



Using FNIC

You can visit the Center personally, write or telephone, or have your library make interlibrary loan requests.

The National Agricultural Library is located at the intersection of U.S. Route 1 and Interstate 495 (Beltway exit 25A North), Beltsville, MD.

For additional information, contact FNIC at the following address:

**The Food and Nutrition
Information Center
National Agricultural Library
Room 304
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705**

(301) 504-5719
FAX (301) 504-6409

Internet address:
fnic@nalusda.gov



Food & Nutrition Information Center

FNIC

(301) 504-5719

Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30 EST

USDA/National Agricultural Library
Room 304
10301 Baltimore Blvd.
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

FAX: (301) 504-6409

TTY: (301) 504-6856

Internet address: fnic@nalusda.gov



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY



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